

also served as the principal architect for the organization's web page, computer network, and many of the custom applications used to automate the office's administrative functions.

Colonel Kirsch's numerous military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Air Force Achievement Award.

Following his retirement, Colonel Kirsch and his wife Carol will continue to reside in Springfield, VA with their children Alicia and Benjamin.

Mr. President, our nation, the Department of Defense, the United States Air Force, and Lieutenant Colonel Kirsch's family can truly be proud of this outstanding officer's many accomplishments. His honorable service will be genuinely missed in the Department of Defense and on Capitol Hill. I wish Lieutenant Colonel Spanky Kirsch the very best in all his future endeavors.●

FIGHTING VIOLENT CRIME IN SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, on July 11, I had the pleasure of visiting the Santa Ana Police Department to observe its community policing program. Santa Ana is the largest city in Orange County and the ninth largest city in the State of California. Thanks in part to their aggressive community policing program, violent crime in Santa Ana has fallen dramatically.

According to the FBI, violent crime in Santa Ana has dropped 39 percent since 1992; homicides alone are down more than 60 percent, property crimes have dropped 51 percent, and grand theft is down 43 percent.

As one of the first recipients of a Department of Justice Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grant over twenty years ago, the Santa Ana Police Department has been a leader in community policing programs. The Santa Ana Police Department initiated a test program called Community Oriented Policing (COP), designed to create greater interaction between the police department and the community.

The COP philosophy utilizes two strategies: prevention and response. The prevention element aims to remove many of the causes of crime in a community. The Santa Ana Police Department, for example, adopted the "Broken Windows" philosophy of James Wilson and George Kelling. This theory states that minor crimes, disorder, and community disrepair breed crime. Santa Ana put this theory to the test with its "Operation: Round Up" program. By making cosmetic improvements to crime-ridden neighborhoods—repairing homes and removing abandoned cars for example—and by prosecuting minor violations, the police sent a strong message that crime of any and all magnitude is not acceptable. As a result, the "Operation:

Round Up" program was able to eliminate a notorious street gang and improve the infrastructure and appearance of the neighborhood.

The response element of the COP philosophy focuses on improved reaction to crime and effective use of police resources. As part of the COPS MORE 96 grant from the Department of Justice, the city received a \$1.8 million grant that allowed for the purchase of 150 laptop computers for its police department, which do the work of 55 police officers. These computers enable officers to file police reports from the field electronically, allowing them to patrol the community longer. The increase in the number of available officers has decreased the number of calls for assistance. The COP program has allowed the Santa Ana Police Department to concentrate all available resources on fighting and preventing crime.

Mr. President, I am so pleased to recognize Police Chief Paul Walters and the entire Santa Ana Police Department for providing outstanding service to the people of California. Their actions serve as a model for other communities to follow. I hope Congress will continue to help communities such as Santa Ana improve the quality of life for its citizens.●

TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the United States Coast Guard as it celebrates the 208th Anniversary of its founding on August 4, 1998.

On August 4, 1790, Congress passed a law creating within the Department of Treasury a service to enforce customs laws. The passage of this law was the foundation for the modern day Coast Guard. The following year, Hopley Yeaton was commissioned as "Master of a Cutter in the service of the United States for the protection of revenue." Yeaton's commission, which was signed by President George Washington, marks the first commission of a seagoing officer, thus giving the Coast Guard the distinction of being the oldest continuous seagoing service of the United States Armed Forces.

Today, the Coast Guard has grown into a force of over 35,000 men and women on active-duty and 8,000 reservist. On a daily basis, the dedicated members of the Coast Guard carry out a number of tasks which ensure the safety of our waters. These tasks include Search and Rescue, Maritime Law Enforcement, Aids to Navigation, Ice Breaking, Environmental Protection, Port Security and Military Readiness.

In times of war, the Coast Guard has performed valiantly to protect our national interests. From the War of 1812 to the Persian Gulf War, members of the Coast Guard have served and given their lives during our Nation's most trying times. The Coast Guard's wartime service was especially noteworthy

during the Second World War when 241,093 Americans answered the call to service as members of the Coast Guard, 1,917 of whom were either killed or wounded in the service of their country.

Equally impressive are the often unsung acts of heroism performed by the Coast Guard on a daily basis. Whether the action is a preventative measure such as ensuring our waterways are clear of hazardous ice, or saving the lives of boaters in danger in the high seas, the work of the Coast Guard affects us all and is a contributing factor to the security we enjoy as Americans.

Mr. President, the Coast Guard motto of "Semper Paratus", meaning "Always Ready", indeed speaks to the dedication and efficiency of the Coast Guard as it stands watch over America's waters. For more than two centuries the Coast Guard has responded with the utmost dedication to service, and for this, Mr. President, all Americans have reason to be grateful.●

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES INVENTORY REFORM ACT OF 1998

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I would like to add a few remarks concerning S. 314, the Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act of 1998. I understand that under this measure, each federal government agency will be required to annually publish an inventory of governmental activities that are not inherently governmental in nature.

Under S. 314, agencies will retain discretion to determine whether an activity is inherently governmental or commercial, and private industry will be given the option to challenge that decision. An agency may also decide that an activity is inherently governmental, but nonetheless pursue outsourcing. This latter practice can be continued and is encouraged by S. 314. For example, I would point my colleagues to the practices of the General Services Administration (GSA), the agency charged with managing all federal personal and real property—including the disposal of property no longer needed by the government, but desired by private consumers.

Three years ago, an Arthur Anderson study concluded that the auctioning function is inherently governmental to GSA's mission. Nevertheless, GSA has increasingly outsourced this function to the private sector.

Today's legislation in no way discourages the federal government's reliance on private industry—particularly, where, as in the case of GSA, a reputable commercial property disposal industry is established and no federal jobs or careers are displaced or otherwise placed at risk. Moreover, auctioning by commercial companies will yield a greater return on the government's investment due to the utilization of commercial incentives and practices. Under Office of Management and Budget Circular Number A-76,